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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Claim Amendments

The Applicants have amended claims 1-3, 8, and 9. Claims 4-7 have been canceled; and claims 13-15 have been added. Accordingly, claims 1-3 and 8-15 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

2.) Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

In paragraphs 1-2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Honkasalo et al. (US 6,636,497). Of these claims, claims 4-7 have been canceled. The Applicants have amended claims 1-3, 8, and 9 to better distinguish the claimed invention from Honkasalo. The Examiner's consideration of the amended claims is respectfully requested.

Amended claim 1 recites a Universal Mobile Telephony System (UMTS) comprising a radio network controller in communication with a core network, and a Node B coupled to the radio network controller. The Node B includes means for controlling a plurality of its Node B internal resources for admission control.

The Examiner pointed to Honkasalo FIGS. 1A-1B, and col. 3, line 46 through col. 4, line 52 for showing a Node B that controls a plurality of its Node B internal resources for admission control. However, while FIG. 1A of Honkasalo illustrates a high-level block diagram of a 3rd generation UMTS system, FIG. 1B illustrates a 2nd generation GSM system, not a UMTS system. (see col. 3, line 66 through col. 4, line 4). Honkasalo's discussion of FIG. 1B indicates that the GSM base station controller typically manages radio resource control, inter-cell handover control, power control, timing and synchronization, and paging of user equipment. (Col. 4, lines 43-46). However, the discussion of the UMTS system of FIG. 1A does not disclose a Node B that includes means for controlling a plurality of its Node B internal resources for admission control.

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Since Honkasalo does not disclose a UMTS system in which a Node B includes means for controlling a plurality of its Node B internal resources for admission control, the withdrawal of the rejection under § 102(e) and the allowance of amended claim 1 are respectfully requested.

Claims 2-3, 8, and new claims 13-15 depend from amended claim 1 and recite further limitations in combination with the novel elements of claim 1. Therefore, the allowance of claims 2-3, 8, and 13-15 is respectfully requested.

Specifically regarding claim 8, this claim has been amended to recite that the radio network controller is a controlling radio network controller that controls the Node B to meet general network requirements, but does not control Node B internal resources for admission control. Basis for the amendment of claim 8 is found in the originally filed specification on page 7, lines 8-12.

New claims 13-15 recite that the Node B controls its Node B internal resources to perform various admission-control functions, and reports to the controlling radio network controller only that the functions have been performed, but does not send a resource status indication to the controlling radio network controller. In the prior art, the Node B reported the status of its internal resources to the controlling radio network controller because the controlling radio network controller also controlled the Node B internal resources. Basis for new claims 13-15 is found in the originally filed specification in the following locations:

Claim 13: FIG. 2; page 8, lines 1-20;

Claim 14: FIG. 5; page 11, line 20 through page 12, line 12; and

Claim 15: FIGS. 6-7; page 12, line 13 through page 14, line 12.

Therefore, the allowance of claims 13-15 is respectfully requested.

Independent claim 9 has been amended to recite a 3rd generation mobile communication system comprising a controlling radio network controller, and a Node B coupled to the controlling radio network controller. The Node B includes means for controlling a plurality of its Node B internal resources for admission control in accordance with parameters given in a message from the controlling radio network controller to the Node B. As noted above, Honkasalo discloses only that the base

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station controller in a 2nd generation GSM mobile communication system manages radio resource control, inter-cell handover control, power control, timing and synchronization, and paging of user equipment. (Col. 4, lines 43-46). However, the discussion of the 3rd generation UMTS system of FIG. 1A does not disclose a Node B that includes means for controlling a plurality of its Node B internal resources for admission control. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection under § 102(e) and the allowance of amended claim 9 are respectfully requested.

Claims 10-12 depend from amended claim 9 and recite further limitations in combination with the novel elements of claim 9. Therefore, the allowance of claims 10-12 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicants believe all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-3 and 8-15.

The Applicants request a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven W. Smith

Registration No. 36,684

Date: 3-30 - 2004

(972) 583-1572 steve.xl.smith@ericsson.com

6300 Legacy Drive, M/S EVR 1-C-11

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Ericsson Inc.

Plano, Texas 75024